

Message Text

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44

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SUBJECT: RATIONALIZATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF IHHSF WITH THE
CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING- ECOSOC

REF: STATE 261045

SUMMARY: AS RESULT OF PPCC MEETING FRIDAY DEC 6 AND CONSULTATIONS
SATURDAY DEC 7 IT CLEAR THAT US INITIATIVE TO MERGE CENTRE FOR
HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING, OR SIGNIFICANT PARTS THEREOF, WITH
INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION HAS SUFFERED
SETBACK FOLLOWING FRENCH AND TRINIDADIAN MOVES SUPPORTED BY, INTER
ALIA

CANADIANS, SOVIETS AND BRITISH. EMERGENT PLAN, WHICH QUESTIONABLY
WILL RECEIVE WIDE SUPPORT, IS TO ACHIEVE RATIONALIZATION BY (A)
GREATLY

NARROWING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE FOUNDATION, I.E. CONFINING THESE
FUNCTIONS TO KESSENTIALLY FINANCIAL MATTERS, AND (B) HAVING
THE FONDATION UTILIZE THE CENTRE FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
PURPOSES, SHOULD THE NEED ARISE, IN SAME MANNER AS UNDP
UTILIZES ORGANS OF THE UN SYSTEM. IN SUM, RATION-
ALIZATION IS TO BE ACHIEVED BUT IN A MANNER CONSIDERABLY DIFFERENT
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THAN

ORIGINALLY ENVISIONED BY THE US. END SUMMARY.

1. AT PPCC MEETING ON DEC 6 FRENCH INTRODUCED WIDE-SWEEPING AMENDMENTS TO JAMAICA/KENYA RES, AS AMENDED BY US, ALONG LINES MENTIONED IN SUMMARY. AND TRINIDAD INTRODUCED AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD PUT FINAL DECISION RE RATIONALIZATION OFF TO VANCOUVER CONFERENCE IN 1976. MERGER OF FRENCH AND JAMAICAN/KENYAN IDEAS ACHIEVED IN CONSULTATION MEETING DEC 7. TRINIDADIAN AMENDMENTS, HOWEVER, STILL A BONE OF CONTENTION, WITH SITUATION AS FOLLOWS: (A) ACCORDING TO RUSSIANS, FRENCH AND TRINIDADIANS, THEY WILL SUPPORT LANGUAGE WHICH ALLOWS FOR FINAL DISPOSITION OF MATTER TO BE HANDLED AT 59TH ECOSOC IN THE INTERESTS OF CONSENSUS; BUT (B) SHOULD A SEPARATE VOTE BE TAKEN ON TRINIDADIAN AMENDMENT THEY ALL WOULD SIDE WITH TRINIDADIANS. IT IS VIEW OF FRENCH, RUSSIANS AND TRINIDADIANS THAT THEY HAVE THE VOTES TO DELAY FINAL DECISION UNTIL VANCOUVER, AND A DECISION TO RESOLVE MATTERS FOR ONCE AND FOR ALL AT 59TH ECOSOC WOULD BE ONLY IN THE INTERESTS OF ACHIEVING A CONSENSUS. FULL TEXT OF EMERGENT RES ALONG WITH OPTIONS FOR OP PARA 3 (TRINIDADIAN IDEA AND ORIGINAL IDEA) REPRODUCED BELOW.

COMMENT: THE EMERGENT RES IS THE RESULT OF EXTRAORDINARY AND EXTENSIVE LOBBYING BY THE CENTRE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND REPEATED SOVIET REFERENCES TO EFFECT THAT "US IS OUT TO DESTROY THE CENTRE," WHICH NO DOUBT ADDED TO ALREADY PENT UP EMOTIONS ON WHOLE ISSUE. EVEN JAMAICA/KENYA HAVE SUCCUMBED TO LANGUAGE OF EMERGENT RES, IN SPITE OF FACT, PLUGGED REPEATEDLY BY US DEL, THAT CONSEQUENCE OF RES WOULD TURN FOUNDATION INTO A PAPER TIGER, WITH MINIMAL STAFF, MINIMAL BUDGET AND SCANTY IF ANY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS; AND THAT MODD OF UNEP GC-III WILL NOT BE TO AUGMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ALREADY MADE FROM UNEP ENVIRONMENT FUND. IN FACT OF THIS ARGUMENT JAMAICAN/KENYA FALL BACK ON WISHFUL THINKING "THAT VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS WILL COME." US CAN JOIN IN CONSENSUS IN ECOSOC, AND PREPARE TO FIGHT AGAINST EFFORTS AT UNEP GC-III, WHICH NO DOUBT WILL DEVELOP, TO TRANSFER ADDITIONAL UNPE MONIES TO THE FOUNDATION; OR ELSE TAKE ORIGINAL STNAD, I.E. VOTE "NO" ON ECOSOC RES AND UNCLASSIFIED

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REVERSE OUR "YES " VOTE IN SECOND COMMITTEE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUNDATION WHEN SUBJECT COMES UP IN PLENARY, WHICH ALSO WOULD BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS. IT IS USUN VIEW THAT THERE IS LITTLE TO GAIN NOW IN FOLLOWING ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS, SINCE WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING RATIONALIZED, ALBEIT IN A WAY NOT ORIGINALLY ENVISIONED BY US. AND ADHERENCE TO ORIGINAL INSTRUCTIONS WOULD SIMPLY SUPPORT SOVIET VIEW, NOW WIDELY

CIRCULATED, THAT THE US WAS OUT TO DESTROY
THE CENTRE WILLY NILLY. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST DEPARTMENT'S
VIEW, IN PREPARATION FOR PPCC MEETING TUESDAY DEC 10. END COMMENT.

QUOTE

DRAT RESOLUTION

RATIONALIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION WITH THE WORK OF THE CENTER FOR
HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
RECALLING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2718 (XXV) OF 15 DECEMBER
1970 CONCERNING THE ROLE OF THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING
AND PLANNING IN THE FORMULATION AND CO-ORDINATION OF UNITED
NATIONS PROGRAMMES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,
RECALLING ALSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2999 (XXVII)
OF 15 DECEMBER 1972 CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONA
L
FUND OR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,
RECALLING FURTHER DECISION 16 (II) OF 21 MARCH 1974 OF
THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION,
RECALLING ALSO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1882
(LVII) OF 31 JULY 1974 CONCERNING THE NEED FOR A THOROUGH
RATIONALIZATION
OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION, THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND
PLANNING, AND OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM,
CONCERNED WITH ENSURING THAT THE PROCESS OF RATIONALIZATION IS
CARRIED
THROUGH IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO AVOID ADMINISTRATIVE OVERLAPPING
AND ENSURE A RATIONAL DISPOSITION OF FUNDING AND THE MAXIMIZATION
OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN
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THE FIELD OF HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,
MINDFUL OF THE NEED TO ESTABLISH POLICY GUIDELINES WHICH WILL BE
COMPATIBLE WITH THE WISHES OF GOVERNMENTS TO ACCORD
PRIORITY ATTENTION TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,
CONSIDERING THAT HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING ARE AN
INTEGRAL PART OF THE OVER-ALL PLANNING OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AND THAT, CONSEQUENTLY, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE
FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING SHOULD LOGICALLY FALL WITHIN
THE OVER-ALL ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED NATIONS.
CONSIDERING ALSO THAT THE PRIMARY OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE OF THE
FOUNDATION WILL BE TO ASSIST IN STRENGTHENING NATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMMES RELATING TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,
PARTICULARLY IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THROUGH THE
PROVISION OF SEED CAPITAL AND THE EXTENSION OF THE NECESSARY

TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PERMIT AN EFFECTIVE
MOBILIZATION OF DOMESTIC RESOURCES FOR
HUMAN HABITAT AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN AND IMPROVEMENT
OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS,

1. DECIDES AS A FIRST STEP THAT THE FUNCTION OF HOUSING
FINANCE AND HOUSING FINANCE POLICY AND THOSE TECHNICAL CO-OPERA-
TION ACTIVITIES BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE CENTRE FOR
HOUSING OVERHEAD RESOURCES ALLOCATED FOR THAT PURPOSE
BE TRANSFERRED TO THE INTERNATIONAL HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
FOUNDATION AFTER THE PLAN AND PROGRAMME OF OPERATION OF THE
FOUNDATION

IS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT

PROGRAMME AT ITS THIRD SESSION;

2. REQUESTS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME, IN PREPARING THE PLAN AND PROGRAMME OF
OPERATIONS FOR THE FOUNDATION, TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT,
IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SECRETARY GENERAL , THE NEED FOR THE
RATIONALIZATION OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING,
BUILDING AND PLANNING AND THE INTERNATIONAL HAVITAT AND HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION, AND THE OBSERVATIONS OF DELEGATIONS ON THIS
SUBJECT: AND SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT:

(A) IN CARRYING OUT THE TASKS ASSIGNED TO IT, THE
INTERNATIONAL HAVITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION MAY ALSO
ENTRUST THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS PROGRAMMES TO THE COMPETENT
BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE CENTRE FOR
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HOUSING BUILDING AND PLANNING;

(B) THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING BUILDING AND PLANNING SHALL
CONTINUE, IN THIS CONTEXT, ITS PRESENT ACTIVITIES DIRECTED TOWARDS
PRE-INVESTMENT AND RESEARCH PROGRAMMES, AS WELL AS ITS FUNCTIONS IN
ELABORATING AND CO-ORDINATING PROGRAMMES IN THE FILD OF HUMAN
SETTLEMMENTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2718
(XXV) OF 15 DECEMBER 1970;

3. DECIDES ALSO THAT FURTHER POSSIBLE ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE
CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING
THE FOUNDATION WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL AT ITS FIFTY-NINTH SESSION IN THE LIGHT OF THE
PLAN AND THE PROGRAMME OF OPERATION OF THE FOUNDATION AND THE CENTRE
FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING;

OR 3. DECIDES THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO
THIS MATTER AT THE 59 TH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
FOUNDATION AND THE CENTRE FOR BUILDING, HOUSING AND PLANNING
PENDING THE RESULTS OF HABITAT 1976.

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